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Receipts and expenditure on account of the Power-house in the Engineering College at Guindy.

* 174 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to lay on the table of this House a statement showing the details of working expenses on behalf of the Power-house in the Engineering College, Guindy, for the last five years ending with 1932–33 and the revenue receipts from the Power-house, if any, for each of these years?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the annual reports of the College the latest of which for the year 1932-33 has recently been placed in the Council Library.

Provision of facilities to the students of the Engineering College, Guindy, for practical training in electrical machinery.

* 175 *Q.*—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many students are there in each class of the electrical course in the Engineering College, Guindy;

(*b*) whether there are any Power-houses in this Presidency other than that at the Engineering College at Guindy which give facilities for practical training in electrical machinery to Indian students;

(*c*) whether the Special Officer has proposed any measures to provide adequate facilities to Indian students for practical training if the College Power-house is closed down; and

(*d*) whether any capital expenditure on new machinery has to be incurred if power is taken from the other sources; if so, whether the probable amount has been estimated and what the estimated cost and recurring expenditure required are?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the annual reports on the working of the College.

(*b*) Attention is invited to rule 17 of the College rules in which the Madras Electricity Department and the Madras Electric Supply Corporation Power Station have been recognized for the purpose of practical training.

(*c*) There is no proposal to close the Power-house.

(*d*) The question is under consideration.

Reconstitution of the Madras Text-Book Committee.

* 176 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Members in the Madras Text-Book Committee;

(*b*) how many of the members are elected by the District Secondary Education Boards and how many are nominated by the Government on the recommendation of the Director of Public Instruction;

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(c) how many of the members appointed by nomination by the Government to the present Committee are officials and how many are non-officials;

(d) how many of these officials are attached to the office of the Director of Public Instruction and connected with the Education Department of the Government;

(e) how many of the members elected by the District Education Boards are officials and how many are non-officials;

(f) whether it is a fact that in practically all the districts the District Educational Officers seek election and are returned to the Committee; and

(g) whether there is any proposal before the Government to reorganize the constitution of the Committee so as to secure an effective and large representation of the teaching and non-official element on the Text-Book Committee?

A.—(a) Forty members, exclusive of the Director of Public Instruction who is the ex-officio President of the Committee.

(b) Eighteen are elected by District Secondary Education Boards and twenty-two are nominated by the Government.

(c) Sixteen are officials and six non-officials.

(d) All the nominated officials are officers of the Educational Department, of whom two are in the office of the Director of Public Instruction.

(e) Six are officials and twelve are non-officials.

(f) This is not the case as the answer to the preceding question shows.

(g) No.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I ask whether there is any proposal before the Government to reconstitute these committees so as to make them more useful in the selection of text-books? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" There is no such proposal pending before the Government."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Is it not a fact that the Government have been considering the question of reconstituting these committees in order that the non-official element may have a larger share in the selection of books? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" There is no such proposal under consideration."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I enquire if the hon. Minister thinks it desirable to reduce the number of officials and increase the number of elected members on the committee? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" In the selection of text-books I do not know if non-officials are particularly qualified or, at any rate, more qualified than officials."

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Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether more professors and teachers could not be associated as non-official members on this Committee?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"There are a number of such people on the Committee at present."

Mr. V. M. RAMASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—"I am asking whether more of them could not be nominated so as to make the non-official element effective?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"If the hon. Member means professors of private colleges, I shall consider the suggestion."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"May I ask whether all the forty members of the Text-Book Committee are expected and considered to be competent to select text-books on all subjects or whether there are sub-committees for different subjects and they deal with particular text-books?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I cannot say, Sir."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN:—"May I know when this Committee was constituted?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"Notice."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I enquire if the Education Department will see that the District Educational Officers do not invariably seek election to the Text-Book Committee?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"They are members of the Secondary Education Boards and it is competent for these bodies to elect them."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"Does the hon. Minister realize that there is a lot of pressure and undue influence brought to bear upon the voters to elect District Educational Officers themselves as members of the Text-Book Committee? Will he therefore take steps to prevent such things happening?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I am not aware of any undue pressure being brought to bear on the voters."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask the hon. Minister whether he is aware that this Text-Book Committee has prescribed a book which is a scurrilous attack on the Prophet of Islam as a Tamil text in the high schools of the Coimbatore district?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"I am not aware."

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED:—"May I ask whether he will call for this information and take steps against the Committee for having prescribed such a book?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—"This question relates to the constitution of the Text-Book Committee and not to the books that they have prescribed."

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Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" May I ask whether the nature of the constitution of the Committee is not responsible for such books being prescribed ? "

The hon. the President :—" That is too far-fetched a supplementary question."

Text-books for non-detailed study in Indian languages for the S.S.L.C. Examination, 1934, and the T.S.L.C. Examination, 1935.

* 177 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the recommendations of the Advisory Committees for text-books for non-detailed study in Indian languages for the S.S.L.C. Public Examination of 1934 and the T.S.L.C. Examination of 1935 have been received and, if so, when they were received for each of the languages;

(*b*) whether they have been approved by the Director of Public Instruction and the necessary intimation sent to the publishers; if so, when ; and

(*c*) if the answer to clause (*b*) is in the negative, the reasons for the delay in sending the necessary intimation to the publishers concerned ?

A.—(*a*) Yes. The statement[a] appended shows the dates on which they were received.

(*b*) & (*c*) All the books except one in Tamil have been approved by the Director. The dates on which intimation was sent to the publishers are shown in the statement referred to in the answer to clause (*a*). The Tamil publication referred to above was not approved as its prescription would be a violation of the practice according to which a book is not accepted unless five years have elapsed since a book written by the same author was last prescribed.

Constant changes in the text-books for lower classes and forms.

* 178 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any rule of the Education Department requiring the managements of schools, public and private, to change the text-books for the lower classes and forms from year to year;

(*b*) if so, when the rule was made and what the reason is for the rule;

(*c*) if not, why in almost all Government schools all text-books are changed from year to year for all the lower classes and high school forms;

[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 238 infra.